

Announcement of Opportunity for Federal Funding

Overview

Agency Name: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region 4

Funding Opportunity Title: South Florida Geographic Initiative/Water Quality Protection Program for the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary - Monitoring, Data Management, and Special Studies

Announcement Type: This is the initial announcement and request for preproposals.

Funding Opportunity Number: Not Applicable

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 66.436 - Surveys, Studies and Investigations; Grants and Cooperative Agreements; Section 104(b)(3) of the Clean Water Act

Target Dates:

Preproposals Submitted to EPA, Region 4	February 25, 2004
Announcement of Selected Preproposals and Request for Full Proposals	March 10, 2004
Full Proposals Submitted to EPA, Region 4	April 12, 2004
Review and Ranking of Full Proposals	June 1, 2004
Announcement of Full Proposals Selected for Funding and Contact Applicants to Request Applications for Federal Assistance	June 7, 2004
Completed Applications Submitted to EPA, Region 4	July 7, 2004
Notice to Applicants that Applications/Work Plans have been Approved	July 21, 2004
Target Date for Award	September 15, 2004

I. Funding Opportunity Description

A. Background

The Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary (FKNMS) was created with the signing of Public Law 101-605, the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary and Protection Act of 1990. Included in the Sanctuary are 2,900 square nautical miles of nearshore waters extending from Biscayne Bay to the Dry Tortugas. The 1990 Act directed EPA and the State of Florida, in consultation with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), to develop a Water Quality Protection Program (WQPP) for the Sanctuary. The FKNMS is the first designated marine sanctuary required to have a WQPP.

Beginning in 1991, EPA and the State of Florida worked with NOAA and other federal, state, and local government agencies, university scientists, environmental groups, and the public to develop a WQPP for the Sanctuary. The "Final Water Quality Protection Program Document"

was approved by the WQPP Steering Committee in September 1996 and contains the rationale and strategies to achieve the goals of the WQPP. The National Marine Sanctuaries Program Amendments Act of 1992 requires that EPA and the State of Florida implement the WQPP in cooperation with NOAA.

The purpose of the WQPP is to recommend priority corrective actions and compliance schedules addressing point and nonpoint sources of pollution to restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the Sanctuary. This includes restoration and maintenance of a balanced, indigenous population of corals, shellfish, fish and wildlife, and recreational activities in and on the water. In addition, the Act requires the development of a comprehensive water quality monitoring program. EPA and the State of Florida have primary responsibility for implementing the comprehensive monitoring and special studies programs for the Sanctuary. EPA has provided the majority of funding (about \$10,000,000) for the monitoring activities and the special studies projects with assistance from NOAA, South Florida Water Management District, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, and private environmental groups. This announcement concerns the monitoring and special studies components of the WQPP that have been incorporated into the FKNMS's Science Plan.

The monitoring projects and special studies included in this announcement of federal funding opportunity support EPA's 2003 Strategic Plan, Goal 4: "Healthy Communities and Ecosystems - Protect, sustain, or restore the health of people, communities, and ecosystems using integrated and comprehensive approaches and partnerships."

B. Monitoring and Data Management

The long-term status and trends monitoring program, which includes water quality, coral reef and seagrass components is now in its tenth year. Scopes of work for existing monitoring projects are in Attachment H. The WQPP also includes a geographic information system (GIS) based data management program (scope of work included in Attachment H) which was developed and is being administered by the Florida Marine Research Institute of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. Since the inception of the comprehensive monitoring program in FY 1995, the long-term monitoring projects have been conducted by Florida International University/Southeast Environmental Research Center (water quality and seagrass monitoring projects) and the Florida Marine Research Institute (coral reef monitoring project). The monitoring projects are funded via existing federal assistance agreements with EPA, Region 4. The objectives of the long-term monitoring program are to evaluate the effectiveness of efforts to reduce or eliminate sources of pollution and to evaluate progress toward achieving and maintaining water quality and protecting and restoring the coral reefs and other living resources of the Sanctuary. To summarize, a comprehensive status and trends monitoring program was established throughout the Sanctuary "to detect change."

C. Special Studies

The overall objective of the special studies program is to identify and understand cause and effect relationships among pollutants, transport pathways, and the biological communities of the Sanctuary. Specific objectives are to: 1) identify and document cause and effect linkages between specific pollutants, water quality problems, and ecological impacts; 2) improve understanding of Sanctuary ecosystems, and develop predictive capabilities based on that understanding; and 3) develop monitoring and research tools to detect pollutants, provide early warning of widespread ecological problems, and identify cause and effect relationships. The FKNMS Science Plan identifies priority special study areas that includes the four topic areas addressed in this request for preproposals. These topic areas have been reviewed by the FKNMS Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). The Science Plan includes short- and long-term data collection to understand causal linkages between pollution sources and ecological problems. This understanding will be used to develop predictive models, evaluate management alternatives, devise corrective actions, and improve the monitoring program.

Priority Topics for Special Studies

1. Recruitment and Survival of Marine Species

Monitoring activities have documented the declines of corals and other important marine species in the Florida Keys. Special studies are needed to assess the recruitment and survival of stony coral populations (particularly reef-building species) throughout the Sanctuary, the potential effects of ecological parameters on the recovery of benthic communities, and evaluation of factors responsible for the declines. Two examples of non-coral species are given below, but proposals need not be limited to these two example species.

The long-spined sea urchin (*Diadema antillarum*) virtually disappeared from waters surrounding the Florida Keys and much of the Caribbean basin in 1983-1984 and has only recently re-appeared in a few areas. The cause of the decline was never definitively established. Special studies are needed to assess natural recruitment rates and factors affecting survivorship. The effectiveness of efforts (laboratory culturing and/or transplantation/translocation experiments) to reintroduce urchins and their subsequent effect on community structure need to be evaluated.

The queen conch has been protected from collection in waters of the Florida Keys since 1986 because of severely diminished numbers. Even with protection, numbers of queen conch remain very low. Recent research suggests that some environmental factors may prevent successful gonad development in conchs found in nearshore waters while those found offshore have mature gonads. Special studies are needed to determine factors controlling the population size of queen conch and methods to maximize the successful re-establishment of this important species.

2. Decline in Coral Abundance, Coverage and Species Diversity

Monitoring at fixed stations throughout the FKNMS since 1996 has documented a 38% decline in living stony coral cover Sanctuary-wide. Multiple stressors have been proposed for the loss of living coral, including nutrient addition to waters, coral diseases and bleaching, global climate

change, and other human impacts. The etiologies of coral diseases in general, and the newly discovered diseases in particular, and the effects of disease on coral populations in terms of prevalence, incidence, and mortality rates are largely unknown. Also, the role of environmental factors, such as degraded water quality, in the onset and development of the diseases is not understood. Special studies are required to identify local, regional, and global causative factors and processes that cause coral decline in the Florida Keys. Special studies are needed to understand the short and long-term impacts of diseases, such as the impact of partial mortality on reproduction and other functions. Long-term studies of individual coral colonies are needed to assess the effects of coral bleaching, disease, mortality from various other sources, and potential for recovery.

3. Distribution and Abundance of Pathogenic Bacteria, Viruses and Other Pathogens

Previous research in the Florida Keys identified pathogenic viruses in 69% of nearshore sampling stations. Viruses were found to be infectious at some stations during winter months. Other research has documented the concentration of human bacteria and viruses in coral mucus and the identification of a potential coral disease organism as a widespread bacterium that may be found in the human intestine and other vertebrates. Special studies are needed to assess the distribution and abundance of pathogens in waters of the Florida Keys, their sources and impacts to human health, and their role in the continued survival of the coral reef community.

4. Effects of Management Actions on Abundance and Distribution of Marine Organisms

Preliminary research on the effects of established fully protected “no-take zones” in the Florida Keys has demonstrated positive increases in population size and average size of several commercially and recreationally important fish species. Also, numbers and sizes of spiny lobsters have increased in areas closed to fishing and other extractive activities. Special studies are required to understand and assess the impacts of existing fully protected zones, such as the recently established Tortugas Ecological Reserve, on community interactions, including commercially important fish and invertebrate species, as well as non-commercially important organisms, such as algae, corals and sponges. Further, special studies are required to understand siting and sizing requirements of protected areas to maximize their environmental benefits.

II. Award Information

A. Funding Authority

EPA, Region 4 will award the funds associated with this announcement under the authority of Section 104(b)(3) of the Clean Water Act, which authorizes federal assistance agreements for conducting or promoting the coordination and acceleration of research, investigations, experiments, training, demonstrations, surveys and studies relating to the causes, effects, extent, prevention, reduction and elimination of pollution.

B. Total Amount Expected to be Awarded

EPA, Region 4 anticipates receiving approximately \$710,000 of FY 2004 money to fund the comprehensive monitoring projects (water quality, coral reef, and seagrass) and the data management program. It is anticipated that Monroe County, Florida may support the monitoring projects in the amount of \$100,000 and that NOAA may provide up to \$280,000. Total funds for the monitoring projects and data management is anticipated to be about \$1,090,000 for FY 2005 activities.

EPA has identified approximately \$100,000 of FY 2003 money that could be available to fund special studies and additional funds may be secured from the FY 2004 annual appropriation. It is anticipated that the South Florida Water Management District may provide \$100,000 for special studies. Total funds for special studies are anticipated to be about \$200,000 for FY 2005 through FY 2006 for projects with workplans covering up to two years.

C. Anticipated Number of Awards

Potential applicants should be aware that the monitoring and data management proposals will be evaluated and ranked separately from proposals for special studies. EPA will make a total of four awards; one award for each of the monitoring projects (water quality, coral reef, and seagrass) and one award for the data management program. If funds are available, Monroe County, Florida will provide a portion of funding for the water quality monitoring project via a contractual arrangement. If funds are available, NOAA will provide a portion of the funding for the coral reef and seagrass monitoring projects. The number of awards for special studies will depend on the budgets of the full proposals submitted. However, providing funds are available, EPA will make a minimum of one award for special studies and the South Florida Water Management District will make one award.

D. Amount of Individual Awards

The award amount for the monitoring and data management projects will be based upon the attached scopes of work (Attachment H) for each individual project and the total budget for each project can not exceed the total project budget (see list below) for monitoring and data management in effect for FY 2004. The goal is to continue the existing status and trends monitoring projects and the data management project as previously funded.

FY 2004 Annual Budgets

Water Quality Monitoring Project - \$450,000
Coral Reef Evaluation and Monitoring Project - \$355,000
Seagrass Monitoring Project - \$225,000
Data Management Project - \$60,000

Individual federal assistance agreements for the special studies projects should not exceed a total of \$100,000 per proposal. **Final decisions on the amount of each award will be dependent on sufficient funding in EPA's annual appropriation and the amount of funds made available to the South Florida Geographic Initiative and the WQPP for the FKNMS.**

Unless pre-award costs are specifically approved by EPA, recipients should not incur project costs, including nonfederal match, until they receive an award offer from EPA.

E. Anticipated Start and End Dates

Federal assistance agreements for the monitoring and data management projects will be awarded for FY 2005 and FY 2006 with the project and budget periods beginning on October 1, 2004 and ending on September 30, 2006. Federal assistance agreements for the special studies projects will be awarded for FY 2005 with the project and budget periods beginning on October 1, 2004. However, special studies may cover one or two years and therefore, the project and budget periods may end on September 30, 2005, or September 30, 2006.

F. Type of Assistance

Accepted proposals submitted by non-federal applicants will be funded via federal assistance agreements in the form of a grant or cooperative agreement. For most projects associated with the WQPP for the FKNMS, a cooperative agreement is used to provide funding. The principal purpose of the federal and non-federal relationship established by a cooperative agreement is the transfer of money to the recipient to accomplish a "public purpose" of support or stimulation; in addition, there will be substantial involvement between the federal agency and the recipient during performance of the activity, establishing the agency as a "partner" during performance. For proposals submitted by another agency, the federal partner will receive funds through an interagency agreement (IAG). Successful applicants will receive funding from Monroe County, Florida via contractual arrangements.

III. Eligibility Information

A. Eligible Applicants

Eligible applicants are U.S. institutions of higher learning, not-for-profit institutions, and state, local, and federally recognized Indian tribal governments. Proposals may include federal researchers as collaborators with a researcher who is affiliated with a U.S. academic institution, non-federal agency, or any other non-profit organization. Federal organizations may not charge federal salary or overhead, but other categories are appropriate.

B. Cost Sharing or Match Requirements

The Steering Committee of the WQPP for the FKNMS has established a policy that there be at least a 5% nonfederal match for the federal assistance agreements using funds dedicated to the WQPP for the FKNMS. Proposals not meeting the minimum 5% nonfederal match requirement will be disqualified. Nonfederal matching funds may be comprised of a variety of public and private sources and may include in-kind contributions and other non-cash support.

Nonfederal match is calculated as follows:

$$\text{Nonfederal share divided by total (EPA + nonfederal) cost} \times 100$$

Matching funds are considered grant funds and may be used for reasonable and necessary expenses of carrying out the scope of work or workplan. Reductions to the amount of the match after a full proposal is selected for funding may result in loss of funding. Other federal money cannot be used as match unless authorized by the statute governing the award of the other federal funds.

The match requirement can be met with contributions from entities other than the award recipient, which is considered third-party match. For match provided by in-kind or cash from one or more third parties, the full proposal must include a letter of commitment from the third party, including the dollar amount of their commitment and whether the match will be provided in cash or in-kind services. For in-kind services, the proposal must include a description of the activities to be conducted for the match.

C. Responsiveness

EPA, Region 4 reserves the right to disqualify projects selected for funding if the applicant fails to submit a complete "Application for Federal Assistance" within **one month** of the receipt of instructions and a request for an application and final work plan. The deadline for submittal of completed Applications for Federal Assistance to EPA, Region 4 is **July 7, 2004**.

IV. Application and Submission Information

A. Submission of a Preproposal

Submission of a preproposal is required. Potential applicants interested in submitting a preproposal in response to this announcement should immediately complete the Notice-of-Interest Form (Attachment A) and send it to the address or FAX number provided on the form not later than ten days after the date of the announcement. Five copies of a preproposal must be submitted no later than February 25, 2004. Preproposals should consist of a Preproposal Title Page (Attachment B) and no more than three pages of text (12 point/10 pitch Times New Roman

font). Preproposals will be evaluated and ranked by the Management Committee of the WQPP and technical staff from NOAA. Evaluation of preproposals will be based upon conformance with this request, the attached scopes of work for the monitoring and data management projects, the goals and objectives of the WQPP, and the FKNMS Science Plan. Monitoring and data management preproposals will be evaluated separately from preproposals for special studies.

B. Submission of a Full Proposal

Investigators will be notified by March 10, 2004, as to whether a full proposal should be submitted for review. The deadline for submission of a full proposal is April 12, 2004. In order to simplify the review process, obtain the maximum degree of comparison, and provide a fair and equitable evaluation of proposals, reviewers will rely principally on the content of the full proposal. Therefore, it is important that all full proposals are complete and adhere to the standard format that is described in detail in Attachment C. Each proposal must consist of the following components:

1. Proposal Submission Checklist (Attachment D)
2. Applicant Agreement (Attachment E)
3. Proposal Cover Sheet (Attachment F)
4. Proposal Summary Sheets (Attachment G)
5. Proposal Text
6. Budget Information (Budget Summary and EPA Standard Form 424A)

Attachments D, E, F, and G are forms to be completed and signed where appropriate. Instructions and blank forms are provided as attachments to this announcement. All forms, including the budget sheet should be attached at the beginning of the proposal.

Proposal text must be no greater than ten pages (minimum, 12 point/10 pitch Times New Roman font) including tables and figures, but not literature cited. Proposals that exceed this page limit will not be reviewed. Proposals shall contain the following text sections:

- A. Introduction
 1. Situation, Need and Previous Efforts
 2. Objectives
 3. Application, Benefits and Importance
- B. Methods and Approach
 1. Description of Major Tasks
 2. Environmental Impact
 3. Future Efforts
- C. Literature Cited

- D. Results and Deliverables
 - 1. Quarterly Progress Reports
 - 2. Final Report
 - 3. Deliverable Items and Schedule
- E. Project Management
 - 1. Administration
 - 2. Roles and Assignments
 - 3. Biographies and Qualifications
- F. Support Requirements and Conditions
 - 1. Cooperation from Other Organizations
 - 2. Data and/or Facility Access
- G. Budget Information
 - 1. Summary, Including Co-Funding
 - 2. EPA Form (SF 424A)

Appendices (maximum of five pages)

Attachment C contains further definition of the above sections, including suggested format, length, organization, and content for each section.

C. Preproposal and Proposal Submission

Preproposals and full proposals must be signed by an official representing the applicant's institution or employer. As stated above, five copies of a preproposal must be submitted to EPA, Region 4 no later than February 25, 2004. After notification that a preproposal is accepted, fifteen copies of a full proposal must be submitted no later than April 12, 2004. Please punch each of the preproposal and full proposal copies for a standard three-ring binder and send to the appropriate individual listed below.

For Special Studies:

Dr. Bill Kruczynski
U.S. EPA
Gulf Ecology Division
1 Sabine Island
Gulf Breeze, FL 32561

For Monitoring/Data Management:

Mr. Fred McManus
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 4, Coastal Section
61 Forsyth Street
Atlanta, GA 30303

V. Full Proposal Review Information

Full proposals will be reviewed by two to five mail reviewers and a formal external review panel.

Conflict of interest considerations will be strictly adhered to during the review process. Proposals will be evaluated by reviewers based on the following criteria:

- Rationale - how well the proposed project addresses program goals and objectives and/or existing scopes of work for ongoing monitoring projects (20 points).
- Scientific Merit - how well the project advances the state of the science and our knowledge and the design of the scientific program (20 points).
- Feasibility - ability of the project to be successfully completed within time and other constraints (15 points).
- Relevance to Resource Management - degree to which approaches and results can be applied to identifying and solving problems in resource management (15 points).
- Qualification of Investigators and Sufficient Laboratory Capabilities - demonstrated ability to integrate and complete the project successfully (15 points).
- Budget - is the proposed budget reasonable and adequate to carry out proposed project (15 points).

Full proposals for monitoring and data management will be evaluated and ranked as a group and full proposals for special studies will be evaluated and ranked as a group. Highly ranked proposals will be presented to the FKNMS's TAC for review. The TAC will rank proposals with high scientific merit based on relevance to the goals and objectives of the FKNMS's Science Plan and the scopes of work for the ongoing long-term monitoring projects. The Management Committee of the WQPP will give great weight to the recommendation of the TAC in making their final selection of full proposals to recommend for funding. It is intended that federal assistance agreements will be awarded during the fourth quarter of FY 2004 with project and budget periods to begin on the first day of FY 2005 (October 1, 2004).

VI. Award Administration Information

A. Application for Federal Assistance

If a full proposal is selected for funding, the applicant will be contacted by EPA, Region 4 staff by June 7, 2004, and required to submit an Application for Federal Assistance (Standard Form 424 A & B and applicable attachments and information) and a final project workplan to Region 4 no later than July 7, 2004. **EPA reserves the right to disqualify applications not submitted by the deadline.**

B. Intergovernmental Reviews

The funds associated with this announcement require Executive Order (E.O.) 12372, Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs”, review. E.O. 12372 structures the federal government’s system of consultation with state and local governments on its decisions involving grants, other forms of financial assistance, and direct development. Under E.O. 12372, states, in consultation with their local governments, design their own review processes and select the federal financial assistance and direct development activities they wish to review. If selected for funding, the recipient of the federal assistance agreement will be required to send a copy of their application and proposal to the appropriate State Clearinghouse Office for an intergovernmental review.

C. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

State and Local Governments and Tribes: *40 CFR Part 31, Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements to State and Local Governments, or*

Institutions of Higher Education and Other Nonprofit Organizations: *40 CFR Part 30, Uniform Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements with Institutions of Higher Education, Hospitals, and other Nonprofit Organizations.*

The proposal must clearly identify any information the applicant considers confidential. EPA will make a final confidentiality decision in accordance with Agency regulations at *40 CFR Part 2, Subpart B*.

EPA uses the following guidelines in determining costs applicable to federal assistance agreements:

For Educational Institutions: *OMB Circular A-21, Cost principles for Educational Institutions.*

For State and Local Governments and Indian Tribes: *OMB Circular A-122, Cost Principles for State and Local Governments.*

For Nonprofit Organizations: *OMB Circular a-122, Cost Principles for Nonprofit Organizations*

D. Award Notice

Formal EPA approval of the Application for Federal Assistance and workplan will be made in the form of a written offer of a federal assistance agreement, most likely a cooperative agreement. Costs incurred prior to the award date will not be reimbursed by EPA unless specifically approved in the assistance agreement. EPA cannot make any payments to the award

recipient until we receive an executed assistance agreement from the recipient. Payments will generally be made on a reimbursable basis.

E. Reporting Requirements

Quarterly reports will be required for monitoring projects and special studies. The federal assistance agreement recipient shall provide quarterly reports to the EPA project officer. The reports shall consist of updates on progress toward work objectives, justification, approach, results to date, any problems encountered, actions taken to resolve problems, discussion of remaining tasks, and expenditures to date. Quarterly reports will be due within 45 days after the end of each quarter.

Recipients of federal assistance agreements will be required to submit a draft final report that summarizes the objectives, methods, approach, results, and significance of each project or study. The draft final report will be reviewed by the EPA project officer and returned with comments. The recipient of the federal assistance agreement will address the comments and submit a final report to the EPA project officer with revisions. The final report will be due within six months of the completion of the project.

F. Quality Assurance/Quality Control

Recipients of federal assistance agreements will be required to develop and submit a Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) to the EPA project officer. Approval of the QAPP is required before work can begin or any data can be collected. Through the plan, the recipient explicitly commits to incorporating procedures that will reduce and maintain random and systematic errors within specified tolerable limits. In addition, the recipient of a federal assistance agreement will document quality control procedures and evaluate the quality of the data being produced. Plans should include or refer to a description of safety, training and equipment maintenance. Data quality objectives will be developed to ensure the utility of data for the applications. The QAPP will be prepared according to the format prescribed in "EPA requirements for Quality Assurance Project Plans for Environmental Data Operations, EPA OA/R-5". The recipient should develop the QAPP in close coordination with the EPA Region 4 QA/QC Officer and the EPA project officer. If requested, EPA will provide a QAPP on file with Region 4 to assist recipients with preparation of their QAPPs.

G. Data Management

Under cooperative agreements with EPA Region 4 and NOAA/FKNMS, the Florida Marine Research Institute (FMRI) developed a data management plan and data management system for the monitoring and special studies programs associated with the FKNMS. Each recipient of a federal assistance agreement for monitoring and special studies projects will work with the designated data management entity to define data entry conventions and issues. All original and ancillary data produced under the monitoring and special studies programs will be generated, processed, stored and archived in a manner that provides detailed documentation of the

procedures used during all stages of data collection, reduction, processing, analysis, and storage.

H. Publications

Recipients of federal assistance agreements for special studies are expected to submit manuscripts on the funded projects to appropriate scientific journals within one year of the completion of the final report. Recipients of federal assistance agreements for monitoring projects are expected to submit manuscripts to appropriate scientific journals at an appropriate time during and/or after the completion of the project. The appropriate time for submission of manuscripts will be negotiated with the EPA project officer. Authors are expected to cite support from the specific sponsor of their project or study in all publications resulting wholly or partially from sponsored activities. For example, an appropriate acknowledgment would be as follows:

“This project/study was funded by a federal assistance agreement from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency pursuant to assistance Number _____.”

Reprints of any abstract, article or other publication that result from this sponsored project /study should be sent to the EPA project officer.

I. Public Relations

Official press releases on the monitoring and special studies projects may be prepared by EPA Region 4 and/or FKNMS staff to be used by all recipients of federal assistance agreements for distribution to the news media. Principal investigators are not prohibited from discussing their projects with news media; however, principal investigators should notify their EPA project officer of any contacts with the news media regarding monitoring and special studies projects funded via federal assistance agreements.

VII. Points of Contact

If you have any questions concerning this announcement of opportunity for federal funding and request for preproposals and proposals, please contact Mr. Fred McManus at (404) 562-9385, email at mcmanus.fred@epa.gov; or Dr. Bill Kruczynski at (305) 743-0537/(850) 934-9298, email at kruczynski.bill@epa.gov.